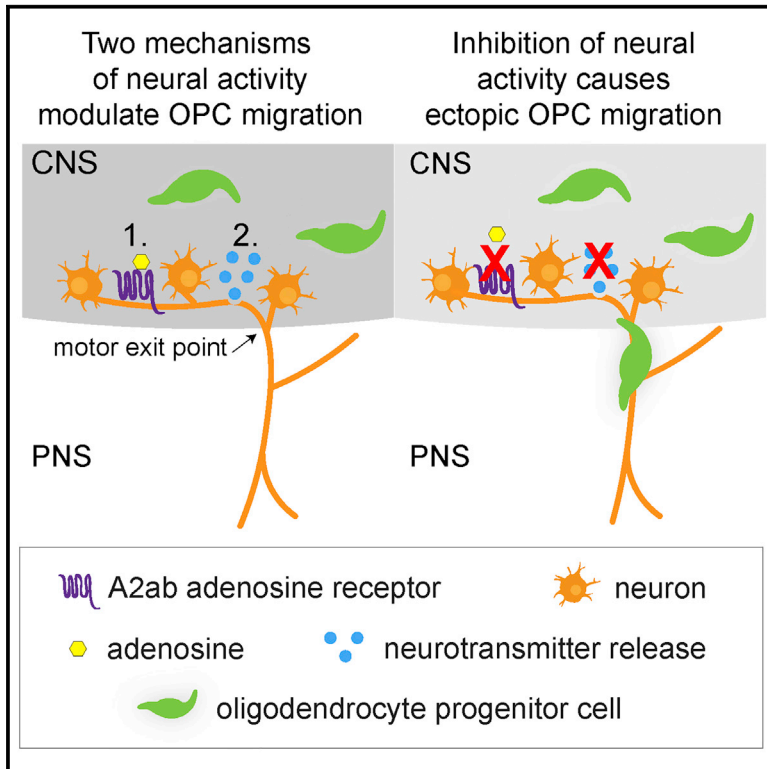


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The Neuromodulator Adenosine Regulates Oligodendrocyte Migration at Motor Exit Point Transition Zones

Graphical Abstract



Authors

Laura Fontenas, Taylor G. Welsh, Melanie Piller, Patricia Coughenour, Avni V. Gandhi, David A. Prober, Sarah Kucenas

Correspondence

sk4ub@virginia.edu

In Brief

Fontenas et al. show that, during development, at least two distinct mediators of neural activity, adenosine signaling via adenosine receptors and vesicular neurotransmitter release, regulate oligodendrocyte progenitor cell (OPC) migration at the motor exit point transition zone. Loss of both mechanisms results in ectopic OPCs in the peripheral nervous system.

Highlights

- A2ab adenosine receptor regulates oligodendrocyte migration at transition zones (TZs)
- Vesicular-mediated release of neurotransmitter compensates in A2ab mutants
- Inhibition of both processes cooperatively results in enhanced OPC migration at TZs
- Ectopic OPCs can rescue the lack of myelin in peripheral hypomyelination mutants



The Neuromodulator Adenosine Regulates Oligodendrocyte Migration at Motor Exit Point Transition Zones

Laura Fontenas,¹ Taylor G. Welsh,² Melanie Piller,¹ Patricia Coughenour,¹ Avni V. Gandhi,³ David A. Prober,³ and Sarah Kucenas^{1,2,4,*}

¹Department of Biology, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA 22904, USA

²Neuroscience Graduate Program, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA 22904, USA

³Division of Biology and Biological Engineering, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA 91125, USA

⁴Lead Contact

*Correspondence: sk4ub@virginia.edu

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SUMMARY

During development, oligodendrocyte progenitor cells (OPCs) migrate extensively throughout the spinal cord. However, their migration is restricted at transition zones (TZs). At these specialized locations, unique glial cells in both zebrafish and mice play a role in preventing peripheral OPC migration, but the mechanisms of this regulation are not understood. To elucidate the mechanisms that mediate OPC segregation at motor exit point (MEP) TZs, we performed an unbiased small-molecule screen. Using chemical screening and *in vivo* imaging, we discovered that inhibition of A2a adenosine receptors (ARs) causes ectopic OPC migration out of the spinal cord. We provide *in vivo* evidence that neuromodulation, partially mediated by adenosine, influences OPC migration specifically at the MEP TZ. This work opens exciting possibilities for understanding how OPCs reach their final destinations during development and identifies mechanisms that could promote their migration in disease.

INTRODUCTION

Oligodendrocyte progenitor cells (OPC) are migratory, proliferative cells with multiple functions in CNS development and disease (Bergles and Richardson, 2015; Emery and Lu, 2015; Zuchero and Barres, 2015). These progenitors differentiate into oligodendrocytes (OLs), which ensheath axons in an insulating layer of myelin that is essential for saltatory conduction (Simons and Nave, 2015). During gliogenesis, OPCs are specified from precursor domains within the brain and spinal cord, but they migrate extensively to become distributed throughout the entire CNS (Miller, 2002; Rowitch, 2004). In the spinal cord, most OPCs are specified from ventral motor neuron progenitor (pMN) precursors that also give rise to motor neurons during neurogenesis (Richardson et al., 2000). These motor neurons extend axons ventrally toward the motor exit point (MEP) transition zone (TZ)

and cross into the peripheral nervous system (PNS), where they ultimately innervate targets including skeletal muscle (Bonanomi and Pfaff, 2010; Lewis and Eisen, 2003). As OPCs disperse from the pMN domain to populate the spinal cord, a subset transiently extends membrane processes through the MEP TZ into the PNS (Fraher and Kaar, 1984; Smith et al., 2014). However, under normal physiological conditions, these processes retract back into the spinal cord, and OPC bodies are restricted from migrating onto peripheral nerves.

The mechanisms allowing selective migration of motor axons and other glial populations, but not OPCs, through the MEP TZ are not understood. Recently, work from our lab and others has shown that OPCs are capable of migrating into the PNS in zebrafish and mouse mutants with PNS defects, and peripheral OPCs have even been described in human peripheral neuropathy patients (Coulpier et al., 2010; Fröb et al., 2012; Kucenas et al., 2009; Smith et al., 2014). On the basis of these studies, we hypothesize that active regulation of OPC migration restricts them to the CNS.

Although the molecular mechanisms that mediate OPC restriction to the CNS are unknown, previous work from our lab identified a population of CNS-derived peripheral glial cells called MEP glia, which are essential for preventing OPC migration onto spinal motor nerves (Smith et al., 2014). A similar population known as boundary cap (BC) cells, located at TZs, exists in mice and is hypothesized to regulate OPC migration at these positions as well (Coulpier et al., 2010; Fröb et al., 2012).

In order to identify additional mechanisms regulating OPC migration at the MEP TZ, we performed an unbiased chemical screen that identified ten small molecules that resulted in peripherally located OPCs. We focused further testing on one of these compounds, an adenosine receptor (AR) antagonist, because adenosine is a well-known modulator of neuronal activity, and neuronal activity has been implicated in regulating OPC differentiation, proliferation, and migration (Chen et al., 2018; Etcheberria et al., 2016; Gibson et al., 2014; Hines et al., 2015; Káradóttir and Attwell, 2007; Mensch et al., 2015; Mitew et al., 2018; Nagy et al., 2017; Stevens et al., 2002). Therefore, we hypothesized that adenosinergic regulation of neuronal activity may be involved in restricting OPC migration at the MEP TZ. Here, we report that adenosine signaling through A2a



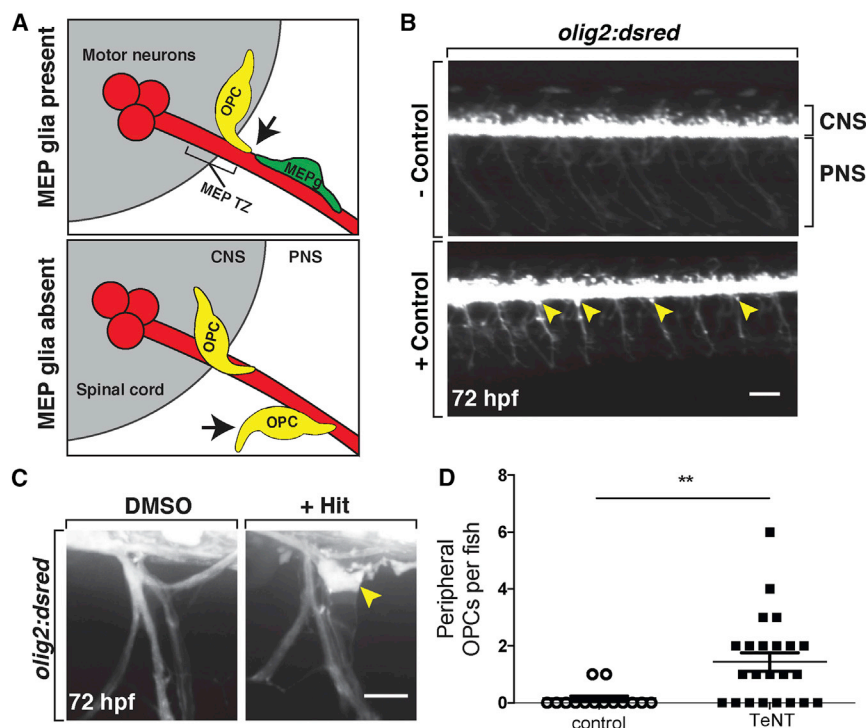


Figure 1. Small-Molecule Screen Identifies Compounds that Disrupt OPC Migration at the MEP TZ

(A) Schematic of a transverse view of the MEP TZ. MEP glia (MEPg; green) prevent OPC (yellow) exit from the spinal cord (gray). OPC processes (arrow) contact MEP glia but are repelled. Without MEP glia, OPCs migrate onto peripheral nerves. (B) Low-magnification images showing lateral views of negative (top) and positive (bottom) controls at 3 dpf in *olig2:dsred* larvae. Peripheral *olig2*⁺ cells are denoted with yellow arrowheads. (C) Images of control and validated hits in 3 dpf *olig2:dsred* larvae showing ectopic OPCs (arrowhead) along spinal motor nerves. (D) Mean ± SEM of peripheral OPC count for larvae injected with injection buffer (control) or TeNT mRNA at 3 dpf. $p = 0.0013$; $n = 14$ control, $n = 23$ TeNT. Scale bars, 100 μ m in (B) and 20 μ m in (C).

ARs functions to regulate OPC migration at MEP TZs during development.

RESULTS

Identification of Mechanisms that Induce Ectopic OPC Migration through the MEP TZ

Glial cells that establish a barrier to OPC migration across the MEP TZ exist in mice and fish (Coulpier et al., 2010; Fröb et al., 2012; Smith et al., 2014). In zebrafish, during development, ventral OPCs within the spinal cord extend membrane processes through the MEP TZ and contact MEP glia in the PNS (Figure 1A). When this occurs, the OPC is immediately repelled and retracts its process. When MEP glia is absent, OPCs freely migrate through the MEP TZ and onto peripheral motor nerves (Figure 1A) (Morris et al., 2017; Smith et al., 2014). However, the signals restricting OPC migration at the MEP are unknown. Therefore, to identify molecular mechanisms regulating OPC migration at the MEP TZ, we conducted an unbiased screen of small molecules to identify signaling cascades involved in OPC segregation to the CNS.

To conduct our screen, we treated 24 h post-fertilization (hpf) *olig2:dsred* embryos with compounds from the Library of Pharmacologically Active Compounds (LOPAC¹²⁸⁰). In our primary screen, embryos were treated with 10 μ M of a compound from the library, 1% DMSO as a negative control, or 4 μ M AG1478 as a positive control (Figure 1B). The positive control AG1478 inhibits ErbB3 signaling and phenocopies the *erbb3b* mutation (Lyons et al., 2005). Previously, we demonstrated that *erbb3b* mutants have peripherally located OPCs because they lack MEP glia (Morris et al., 2017; Smith et al., 2014). A pilot experi-

ment confirmed that treatment with 4 μ M AG1478 from 24 hpf to 3 days post-fertilization (dpf) caused robust peripheral OPC migration, whereas 1% DMSO did not (Figure 1B). For the rest of our screen, we analyzed larvae at 3 dpf for the presence of *olig2*⁺ cell bodies in the periphery (Figure 1C). We identified 197 “hits” in our primary screen, and these compounds were retested in a secondary screen, and any that resulted in peripheral *olig2*⁺ cells was considered a validated hit (Figure 1C). This protocol resulted in 10 total hits, many of which are involved in neurotransmission and/or modulation of neuronal activity (Table 1).

Because several of the compounds from our screen are neuro-modulators, we next tested whether a non-pharmacological method of inhibiting neuronal activity would result in peripheral OPC migration. To do this, we inhibited all vesicular release using tetanus toxin light chain (TeNT) (Yu et al., 2004). Previous studies demonstrate that injections of TeNT mRNA effectively inhibit vesicular release and lead to significant paralysis of zebrafish larvae (Fontenas et al., 2016; Mensch et al., 2015). When we injected *olig2:dsred* embryos at the one-cell stage with 1 to 2 nL of 200 ng/ μ L TeNT mRNA, we confirmed that neuronal activity was indeed inhibited, as larvae were paralyzed at 2 dpf ($n = 54$) and 3 dpf ($n = 52$) (Figures S1A and S1B; 2 dpf, $p < 0.0001$; 3 dpf, $p < 0.0001$). Consistent with our hypothesis, silencing neurons using TeNT resulted in significant numbers of OPC bodies in the periphery (Figure 1D; $n = 14$ larvae [control], $n = 23$ larvae [TeNT]; $p = 0.0013$). From these results, we hypothesize that neuronal activity influences OPC migration at MEP TZs.

A2a ARs Influence OPC Migration at the MEP TZ

One compound we identified, CGS-15943, is a highly potent, non-selective AR antagonist (Ongini et al., 1999). Adenosine is a well-known modulator of neuronal activity and can either increase or decrease neuronal firing by binding to different ARs (Sebastião and Ribeiro, 2015). Because adenosine can modulate

Table 1. Validated Hits from Screen Using LOPAC¹²⁸⁰

Drug Name	Description
CGS-15943	highly potent, non-selective adenosine receptor antagonist
1-Phenyl-3-(thiazolyl)-2-thiourea	dopamine β -hydroxylase inhibitor
Acetylthiocholine chloride	nicotinic acetylcholine receptor agonist
Brefeldin A from <i>Penicillium brefeldianum</i>	causes collapse of Golgi apparatus, blocking exocytosis
N-phenylanthranilic acid	Cl [−] channel blocker
Salmeterol xinafoate	selective β 2 adrenergic receptor agonist
I-OMe-tyrphostin AG 538	insulin growth factor I (IGF-1) receptor inhibitor
L-canavanine sulfate	selective inhibitor of inducible nitric oxide synthase (iNOS)
Clofibrate	peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor- α (PPAR α) agonist
Wortmannin from <i>Penicillium funiculosum</i>	selective phosphatidylinositol 3-kinase (PI3-K) inhibitor

neuronal activity and purinergic signaling has been implicated in OL differentiation and migration (Agresti et al., 2005a, 2005b; Coppi et al., 2013, 2015; Dennis et al., 2012; Othman et al., 2003; Stevens et al., 2002), we focused our experiments on this hit from our screen.

We first confirmed that CGS-15943 caused peripheral OPC migration through the MEP TZ by performing *in vivo*, time-lapse imaging. In order to distinguish OPCs from motor neurons, we used embryos expressing *olig2:dsred* and *sox10:eos*, where OPCs are Eos⁺ and DsRed⁺ (yellow). We treated these embryos with 10 μ M of CGS-15943 from 24 hpf to 3 dpf and imaged three larvae (ten nerves total) from 55 hpf to 3 dpf. In these time-lapse movies, we observed *sox10⁺/olig2⁺* cells with highly dynamic membrane processes at the MEP TZ (Figure 2A). In nine of ten nerves (90%) imaged, OPCs extended highly dynamic membrane processes through the MEP TZ. In six of ten nerves (60%), OPC bodies squeezed through this opening and migrated onto peripheral spinal motor nerves during imaging (Figure 2A; Video S1). This migration most often occurred between 60 and 72 hpf, although we also observed OPCs already present on the nerve before 60 hpf (three of ten nerves [30%]). Interestingly, we never observed any *olig2⁺/sox10[−]* motor neurons in the periphery in these time-lapse movies (zero of ten nerves [0%]), indicating that adenosine signaling is involved in restricting OPCs, but not motor neurons, to the spinal cord. This is consistent with evidence from our lab and others demonstrating that distinct mechanisms regulate segregation of glia and neurons at the MEP TZ (Fröb et al., 2012; Kucenas et al., 2009).

We next sought to determine which AR subtype was involved in preventing peripheral OPC migration. To do this, we treated embryos expressing *olig2:dsred* from 24 hpf to 3 dpf with varying concentrations of selective antagonists for each of the four AR subtypes: A1 (8-cyclopentyltheophylline [CPT]), A2a (SCH-58261), A2b (MRS-1754), and A3 (MRS-1191), as well as the

general AR antagonist CGS-15943 (Jiang et al., 1996; Ongini et al., 1999; Searl and Silinsky, 2012; Wei et al., 2013). We analyzed drug-treated larvae at 3 dpf and quantified the number of peripheral *olig2⁺* OPCs. As expected, CGS-15943 caused significant peripheral OPC migration (Figure S2A; $p < 0.01$). The selective A2a AR antagonist SCH-58261 also resulted in significant numbers of peripheral *olig2⁺* OPC bodies and membrane processes (Figures 2B and 2C; $p < 0.01$ for 10 μ M SCH-58261 compared with DMSO). In contrast, we did not observe peripheral OPCs following treatment with selective antagonists for any of the other AR subtypes (Figures S2B–S2D). From these data, we conclude that A2a ARs are involved in regulating OPC migration at MEP TZs.

We sought to further confirm the selectivity of SCH-58261 activity to A2a ARs with competitive binding experiments. If SCH-58261 selectively antagonizes the A2a AR, we hypothesized that co-administering an A2a agonist would rescue the peripheral migration phenotype caused by SCH-58261. To test this, we treated 24 hpf *olig2:dsred* embryos with 10 μ M SCH-58261 combined with 5 μ M adenosine or 2.5 μ M of the A2a selective agonist CGS-21680 and quantified the number of peripheral OPCs at 3 dpf (Jarvis and Williams, 1989). Both adenosine and CGS-21680 significantly decreased the number of peripheral OPCs when co-administered with SCH-58261 (Figure 2D; $p < 0.05$, CGS-21680; $p < 0.01$, adenosine compared with SCH-58261 alone; $n = 30$ larvae). These results support the conclusion that SCH-58261 selectively antagonizes A2a ARs to induce ectopic OPC migration. To confirm that adenosine or CGS-21680 treatment alone did not interfere with normal OPC development or migration, we imaged *olig2:dsred* zebrafish larvae at 3 dpf following treatment with adenosine, CGS-21680, or DMSO from 24 hpf to 3 dpf and quantified dorsal spinal cord *olig2⁺* OPCs in a four-somite region. In these studies, we did not observe any differences among treatments (Figure S2E; $p = 0.23$; adenosine, $n = 4$ larvae; CGS-21680, $n = 9$ larvae; DMSO, $n = 11$ larvae).

In our initial screen, our treatment protocol spanned from 24 hpf to 3 dpf, encompassing OPC specification, proliferation, and migration (Kirby et al., 2006; Kucenas et al., 2008a; Park et al., 2002). Therefore, we sought to narrow the treatment window. To do this, we treated *olig2:dsred* embryos with 10 μ M SCH-58261 during various time windows and quantified the number of peripheral OPCs at 3 dpf. We found that exposure to SCH-58261 beginning later than 54 hpf or ending earlier than 54 hpf did not result in any peripheral OPC migration (Figures 2E and S2F–S2H; $n = 7$ –12 larvae). At this stage, OPCs are migrating throughout the spinal cord and we previously observed OPCs extending membrane processes into the periphery and contacting MEP glia at this developmental stage (Kirby et al., 2006; Smith et al., 2014). From these experiments, we conclude that adenosine signaling functions when OPCs are migrating.

A2a AR Antagonists Do Not Disrupt Spinal Motor Nerve Development

Previously, we demonstrated that loss of MEP glia results in OPC migration into the periphery (Morris et al., 2017; Smith et al., 2014). We therefore sought to determine whether antagonizing

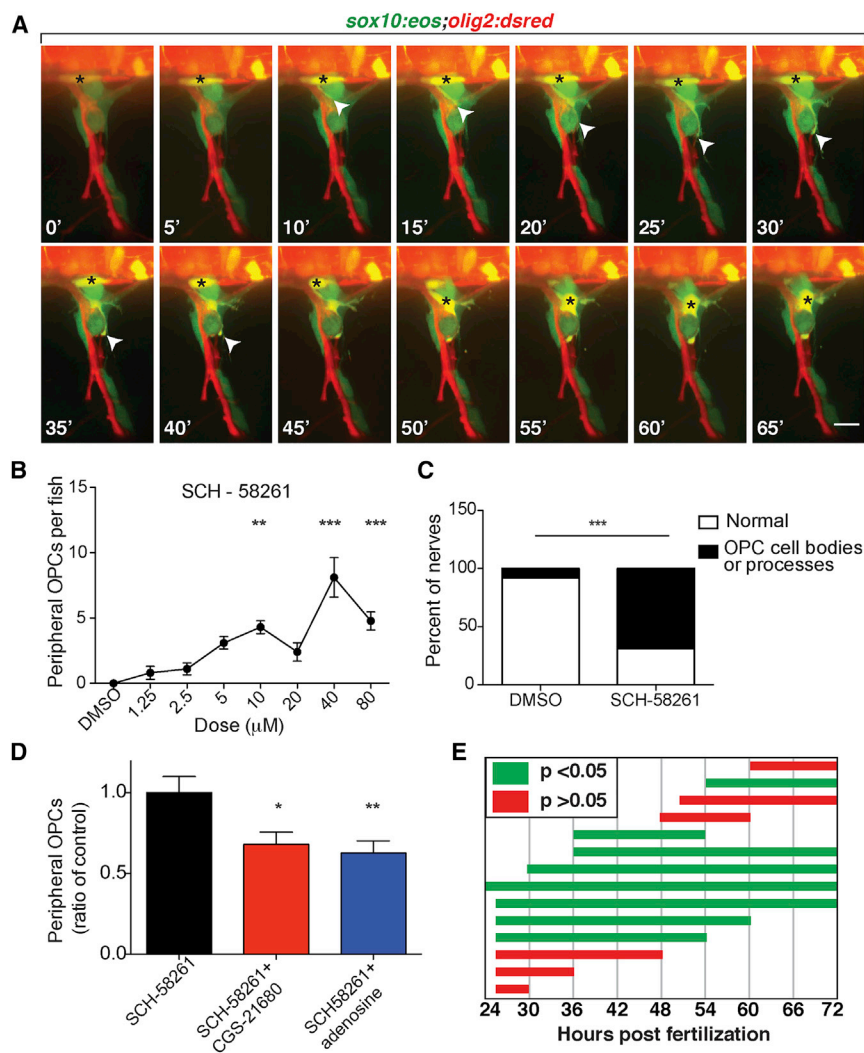


Figure 2. A2a AR Antagonist Causes OPC Migration through the MEP TZ

(A) Frames captured from a 15 h time-lapse movie of a *sox10:eos;olig2:dsred* larva treated with CGS-15943 from 24 hpf to 3 dpf and imaged from 57 to 72 hpf; 0' is 58 hpf. The black asterisk marks OPC body. Arrowheads mark OPC leading process.

(B) Dose-response curve of the number of peripheral OPCs for fish treated from 24 hpf to 3 dpf with SCH-58261. Mean \pm SEM, $n = 10$ larvae per dose; ** $p < 0.01$ and *** $p < 0.0001$.

(C) Percentage of nerves at 3 dpf that have ectopic OPC processes and/or cell bodies. $n = 60$ DMSO, $n = 98$ SCH-58261; $p < 0.01$.

(D) Mean \pm SEM of peripheral OPCs in *olig2:dsred* larvae treated with 10 μ M SCH-58261 alone or in combination with 2.5 μ M CGS-21680 or 5 μ M adenosine from 36 hpf to 3 dpf. $n = 30$ fish per treatment; * $p < 0.05$ and ** $p < 0.01$.

(E) Peripheral OPC counts for larvae treated with 10 μ M SCH-58261 during distinct time periods. Green bars indicate mean peripheral OPC counts significantly above DMSO control ($p < 0.05$). Red bars indicate mean peripheral OPC counts not significantly different than DMSO ($p > 0.05$). $n = 9$ –12 larvae per condition. Scale bar, 20 μ M.

the A2a AR led to ectopic OPC migration by perturbing MEP glial development. MEP glia can be identified by the co-expression of *sox10:eos* and *olig2:dsred*, as well as expression of *wnt inhibitory factor 1 (wif1)* (Smith et al., 2014). To determine if MEP glia were present in larvae treated with the A2a AR antagonist, we quantified the percentage of motor nerves with *sox10⁺olig2⁺* MEP glia at the MEP TZ and observed no differences among larvae treated from 36 hpf to 3 dpf with 1.25 μ M CGS-15943 ($n = 6$ larvae), 10 μ M SCH-58261 ($n = 9$ larvae), or DMSO ($n = 5$ larvae) (Figures 3A and 3B; $p = 0.14$, ten nerves analyzed per larvae). We also observed *wif1⁺* MEP glia at 54 hpf in larvae treated with 1.25 μ M CGS-15943 from 36 to 54 hpf (Figure S3A). From these data, we conclude that A2a AR antagonism does not affect MEP glial development.

To determine whether glial migration was generally disrupted at the MEP TZ in larvae treated with the A2a AR antagonist, we assayed the migration of perineurial glia (PG). These cells originate in the ventral spinal cord, exit the CNS via the MEP TZ, and migrate along motor nerves to form the perineurium (Clark et al., 2014; Kucenas et al., 2008b). If the A2a AR antagonist non-

affect glial migration at the MEP TZ (Figure 3C; $p = 0.28$; DMSO 22.27 ± 0.88 μ m [mean \pm SEM], $n = 6$ larvae, ten nerves analyzed per larva; CGS-15943 24.94 ± 1.75 μ m [mean \pm SEM], $n = 10$ larvae, ten nerves analyzed per larva).

Finally, we assessed Schwann cell (SC) development along spinal motor nerve roots. Using 3 dpf *sox10:eos* larvae, we quantified the number of Eos⁺ cells between the MEP TZ and horizontal myoseptum. In this experiment, we observed that the number of Eos⁺ cells per nerve was not significantly different between animals treated from 36 hpf to 3 dpf with DMSO or SCH-58261 ($p = 0.08$), and we saw no difference in the number of Eos⁺ glia when we compared counts between nerves populated with ectopic OPCs and those without (Figure 3D). We also performed time-lapse imaging in *sox10:nls-eos* larvae starting at 36 hpf and observed that migration, proliferation, and apoptosis were indistinguishable between SCH-58261-treated and DMSO-treated larvae (Figures 3E–3G). Finally, we confirmed that SCs produced MBP⁺ myelin sheaths at 5 dpf in both DMSO- and SCH-58261-treated larvae (Figures S3B). From these experiments, we conclude that A2a AR antagonism

selectively disrupted cell migration at the MEP TZ, we hypothesized that we would observe altered extension of PG along spinal motor nerves. To investigate this, we measured extension of PG from the spinal cord along motor nerves in 55 hpf *nkx2.2a:megfp;olig2:dsred* larvae treated from 36 to 55 hpf with 1.25 μ M CGS-15943. In these studies, we found no difference in PG extension between DMSO and CGS-15943-treated larvae, indicating that A2a AR signaling does not generally

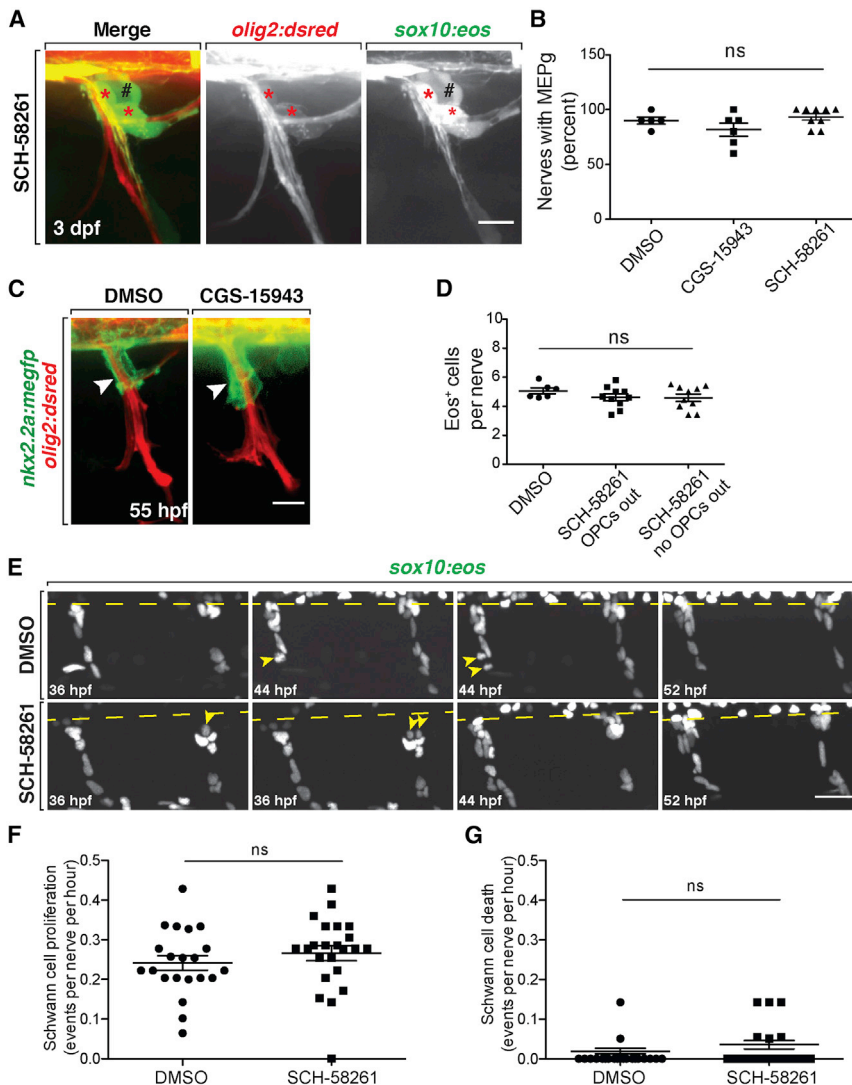


Figure 3. A2a AR Antagonism Does Not Affect Spinal Motor Nerve Development

(A) Motor nerve in a 3 dpf *olig2:dsred;sox10:eos* larvae treated with SCH-58261 from 36 hpf to 3 dpf. Red asterisks mark *sox10⁺/olig2⁺* MEP glia at the MEP TZ. Black pound signs denote *sox10⁺/olig2⁻* dorsal root ganglia.

(B) Mean \pm SEM of the percentage of nerves per larva at 3 dpf with *sox10⁺/olig2⁺* MEP glia after treatment from 36 hpf to 3 dpf with DMSO (n = 5), CGS-15943 (n = 6), or SCH-58261 (n = 9). Ten nerves were quantified per larva. p = 0.14.

(C) Fifty-five hours post-fertilization *nkx2.2a:megfp;olig2:dsred* larvae treated with DMSO or CGS-15943 from 36 to 55 hpf showing PG extension (arrowheads) on the nerve.

(D) Quantification of Eos⁺ cells per nerve at 3 dpf in DMSO and SCH-58261-treated larvae. Mean \pm SEM for DMSO (n = 6 fish) and SCH-58261 (n = 10 fish). Ten nerves per fish. p = 0.39.

(E) Frames captured from a 20 h time-lapse video starting at 36 hpf in *sox10:nls-eos* embryos treated with DMSO or SCH-58261. The spinal cord is denoted by a dashed line. SCs divide (yellow arrowheads) along the nerves in both treatments.

(F) Quantification of SC proliferation during these time lapses. Mean \pm SEM for DMSO (n = 6 fish, 21 nerves) and SCH-58261 (n = 6 fish, 23 nerves). p = 0.35.

(G) Quantification of SC death during these time-lapse movies. Mean \pm SEM for DMSO (n = 6 fish, 21 nerves) and SCH-58261 (n = 6 fish, 23 nerves). p = 0.20. Scale bars, 20 μ m.

does not cause peripheral OPC migration by disrupting motor nerve development.

The A2ab AR Influences OPC Migration at MEP TZs

Zebrafish have two orthologous A2a ARs, A2aa and A2ab, which are encoded by *adora2aa* and *adora2ab*, respectively (Boehmler et al., 2009). We used Clustal Omega to compare the zebrafish A2aa, A2ab, and the human A2A AR protein sequences (Goujon et al., 2010; Sievers et al., 2011). Zebrafish A2aa and A2ab ARs have 55% and 52% identical amino acids to human A2A AR (Figure S4). However, most of this variability is in the C-terminal cytoplasmic tail, which mediates interactions with other proteins and not ligand binding (Keuerleber et al., 2010). The ligand binding domains of zebrafish A2aa and A2ab ARs are 72% (21 of 29) conserved with human A2A AR, and A2aa and A2ab ARs have 76% (22 of 29) conserved amino acids with each other in this domain, so they likely have similar ligand affinities (Figure S4). However, *adora2aa* and *adora2ab* have distinct expression patterns, so we hypoth-

esized that they may have unique functions in nervous system development (Boehmler et al., 2009). To determine if A2aa and/or A2ab ARs were required to prevent peripheral OPC migration, we created genetic mutants for *adora2aa* and *adora2ab*. We created germline mutations in *adora2aa* using transcription activator-like effector nuclease (TALEN) targeted mutagenesis (Boch et al., 2009; Moscou and Bogdanove, 2009). *Adora2aa^{ct845}* is a 7 bp deletion within exon 3, which causes a frameshift and early stop codon, and this results in a severely truncated protein sequence (Figure S5A). The mutated A2aa AR protein lacks transmembrane domains 6 and 7, which contain conserved ligand binding residues (de Lera Ruiz et al., 2014). It also lacks the entire C-terminal cytoplasmic tail, which mediates interaction with G proteins and protects the receptor from ubiquitination and degradation (Keuerleber et al., 2010). For these reasons, we hypothesize that *adora2aa^{ct845}* is a presumptive null. Similar to *A2a^{-/-}* mice, *adora2aa^{-/-}* zebrafish mutants are homozygous viable, produce viable offspring, and do not show any morphological defects compared with wild-type (WT) siblings at all stages investigated (Figure S5B) (Chen et al., 1999).

We also created germline mutations in *adora2ab* using CRISPR/Cas9 (Hwang et al., 2013). We designed a single guide RNA (sgRNA) targeting *adora2ab* exon 2, just downstream of the

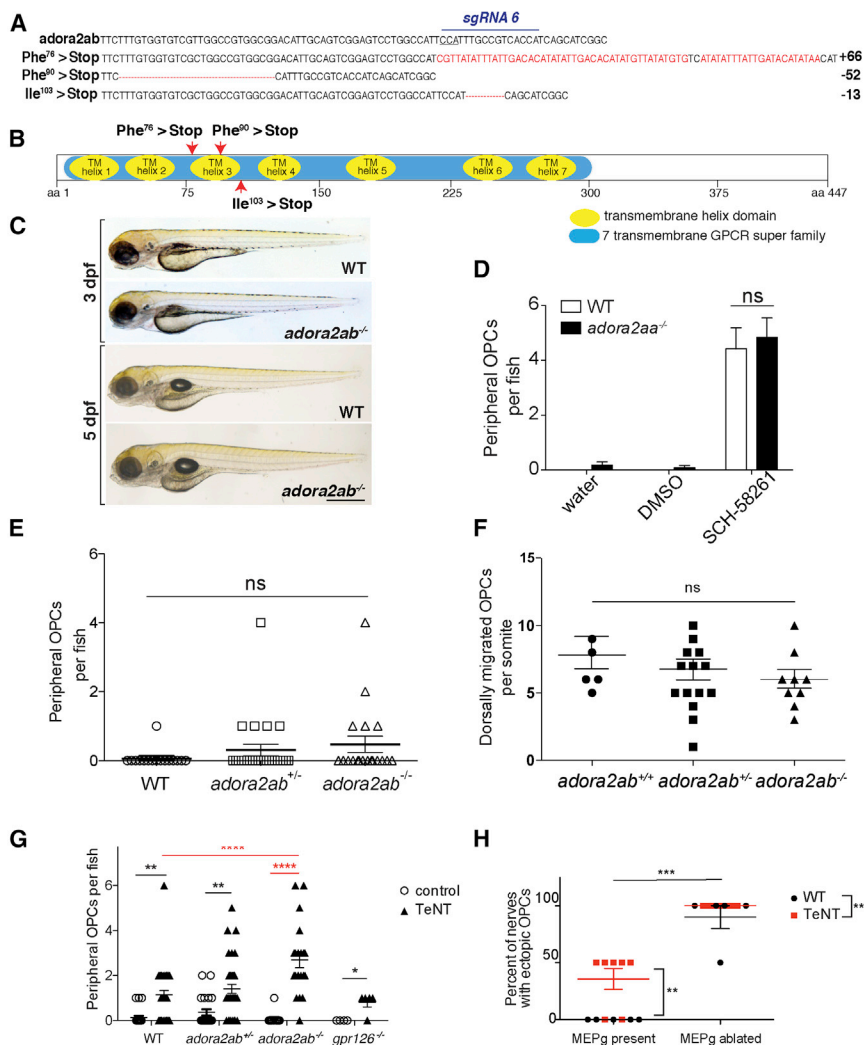


Figure 4. A2ab ARs Influence OPC Migration at the MEP TZ

(A) *ad^{2ab}* WT and germline CRISPR mutant DNA sequences. sgRNA target and PAM site (underlined) are shown on WT sequence. Red letters or dashes indicate insertions or deletions.

(B) Diagram of A2ab protein with locations of early stops caused by *ad^{2ab}*^{u^{va}6}, *ad^{2ab}*^{u^{va}7}, and *ad^{2ab}*^{u^{va}9}.

(C) Bright-field images of WT and *ad^{2ab}*^{-/-} siblings at 3 and 5 dpf.

(D) Mean ± SEM of peripheral OPCs per fish for *olig2:dsred;ad^{2aa}*^{-/-} and WT larvae treated with water, DMSO, or 10 μM SCH-58261 from 36 hpf to 3 dpf. n = 12 fish; p < 0.0001 for treatment, p = 0.53 for genotype, p = 0.93 for interaction of treatment and genotype.

(E) Mean ± SEM of peripheral OPCs per fish for *olig2:dsred;ad^{2ab}*^{-/-}, *ad^{2ab}*^{+/-}, and WT larvae. p = 0.32; n = 19 *ad^{2ab}*^{-/-}, n = 26 *ad^{2ab}*^{+/-}, and n = 16 WT.

(F) Mean ± SEM of dorsally migrated OPCs per somite at 72 hpf. p = 0.43; n = 6 WT, n = 16 *ad^{2ab}*^{+/-}, n = 9 *ad^{2ab}*^{-/-}.

(G) Mean ± SEM of peripheral OPCs per fish for *olig2:dsred;ad^{2ab}*^{-/-}, *gpr126*^{-/-}, and WT larvae injected with injection buffer (control) or TeNT mRNA. **p = 0.0088 (WT versus WT + TeNT), **p = 0.0053 (*ad^{2ab}*^{+/-} versus *ad^{2ab}*^{+/-} + TeNT), and ****p < 0.0001 (*ad^{2ab}*^{-/-} versus *ad^{2ab}*^{-/-} + TeNT); p = 0.99 (WT + TeNT versus *gpr126*^{-/-} + TeNT) and (WT + TeNT versus *ad^{2ab}*^{-/-} + TeNT). n = 22 WT, n = 22 *ad^{2ab}*^{+/-}, n = 13 *ad^{2ab}*^{-/-}, n = 36 WT + TeNT, n = 32 *ad^{2ab}*^{+/-} + TeNT, n = 20 *ad^{2ab}*^{-/-} + TeNT, n = 4 *gpr126*^{+/-}, and n = 5 *gpr126*^{-/-} + TeNT. Red asterisks highlight significant comparisons relevant for the experiment.

(H) Mean ± SEM of the percentage of nerves with peripheral OPC bodies and/or processes at 3 dpf following TeNT mRNA injections and/or MEP glial ablation. For each WT or TeNT-injected larva, two nerves were analyzed with MEP glia ablated, and two nerves were analyzed with MEP glia intact in the same larva. n = 5 larvae (uninjected), n = 7 larvae (TeNT). **p = 0.004 for TeNT versus WT, p < 0.0001 for MEP glia ablated versus MEP glia present. Scale bar, 0.5 mm.

translation start site, and identified three germline frameshift mutations in the F1 generation (Figure 4A). These alleles include *ad^{2ab}*^{u^{va}6}, which has a 52 bp deletion in exon 2; *ad^{2ab}*^{u^{va}7}, which is a 66 bp insertion within exon 2; and *ad^{2ab}*^{u^{va}9}, which has a 13 bp deletion in exon 2 (Figure 4B). Because all three *ad^{2ab}* mutant alleles lack all conserved ligand binding domains and C-terminal signaling, we hypothesize that they are also presumptive null mutations. Similar to *ad^{2aa}*^{-/-} mutant larvae, *ad^{2ab}*^{-/-} mutant larvae do not show any morphological defects compared with WT siblings at all stages investigated (Figure 4C).

To determine if *ad^{2aa}* mediated OPC restriction from the PNS, we quantified the number of peripheral OPCs at 3 dpf in *olig2:dsred;ad^{2aa}* mutant larvae. In these mutants, we did not observe significant numbers of peripheral OPCs compared

with WT and heterozygous siblings (Figure S5C; p = 0.69; n = 7 *ad^{2aa}*^{+/-}, n = 20 *ad^{2aa}*^{-/-}, n = 26 *ad^{2aa}*^{-/-}). To determine if both A2a paralogs in zebrafish were involved in segregating OPCs to the spinal cord, we treated *olig2:dsred;ad^{2aa}*^{-/-} larvae, which still have functional A2ab ARs, with the A2a AR antagonist SCH-58261 at 36 hpf. At 3 dpf, we did not observe peripherally migrated OPCs in WT or *ad^{2aa}*^{-/-} larvae treated with DMSO (Figure 4D; n = 12). However, when WT or *ad^{2aa}* mutant larvae were treated with SCH-58261 from 36 hpf to 3 dpf, we observed peripheral OPCs in both genotypes (Figure 4D; n = 12). Two-way ANOVA analysis showed a significant effect of drug treatment (p < 0.0001) but not for genotype (p = 0.53) or the interaction between treatment and genotype (p = 0.93). In other words, both WT and *ad^{2aa}* mutant larvae have the same number of peripherally migrated OPCs when treated with

the A2a AR antagonist. These results led us to hypothesize that A2ab may be involved in OPC migration at the MEP TZ. Therefore, we quantified peripheral OPCs in 3 dpf *olig2:egfp;adora2ab*^{-/-} larvae. We did not observe any peripheral OPC migration in WT larvae, but we did observe variable numbers of *olig2*⁺ OPCs along peripheral motor nerves in *adora2ab*^{+/-} and *adora2ab*^{-/-} larvae (Figure 4E; $p = 0.32$; $n = 16$ WT, $n = 26$ *adora2ab*^{+/-}, $n = 19$ *adora2ab*^{-/-}). However, the phenotype of peripheral OPC migration in *adora2ab*^{-/-} larvae was not as robust as in larvae treated with the A2a antagonist SCH-58261 and was not significantly different from WT siblings. We discuss this in greater detail later. To rule out a general defect in OPC migration caused by a mutation in *adora2ab*, we time-lapse-imaged *olig2:egfp;adora2ab* mutants and their siblings from 55 to 72 hpf and quantified the number of dorsally migrated OPCs in the spinal cord. In these movies, we did not observe any significant difference in OPC activity between *adora2ab* mutant larvae and siblings (Figure 4F; $p = 0.43$; $n = 6$ WT, $n = 16$ *adora2ab*^{+/-}, $n = 9$ *adora2ab*^{-/-}).

As an independent test of the role of A2ab ARs in OPC restriction to the spinal cord, we performed genetic knockdown of *adora2aa* and *adora2ab* using morpholino oligonucleotides (MOs). When we quantified peripherally migrated OPCs in larvae injected with MOs at the one-cell stage, *adora2ab*^{MO1} morphants ($n = 42$), but not *adora2aa*^{MO1} morphants ($n = 65$), had significantly more peripheral OPCs at 3 dpf compared with uninjected ($n = 42$) and phenol red-injected ($n = 11$) larvae ($p < 0.0001$) (Figures S6A and S6C). This result is consistent with our finding that *adora2aa*^{-/-} larvae do not have peripherally migrated OPCs (Figure S5C). Similarly, we observed ectopic peripheral OPCs only in *adora2aa*^{-/-} larvae injected with *adora2ab* MO ($n = 84$) but not in control-injected ($n = 30$) *adora2aa*^{-/-} larvae (Figure S6B; $p < 0.0001$). To directly rule out the possibility that the phenotype we see in *adora2ab* morphants is due to an off-target effect of the MO, we injected WT and *adora2ab* mutants with 1 ng/nL *adora2ab* MO at the one-cell stage. We quantified the number of peripheral OPCs and observed that the effect of the MO was lost in *adora2ab*^{-/-} larvae and that the number of peripheral OPCs was comparable with that in uninjected *adora2ab* mutant larvae (Figure S6E; $p = 0.03$ [*adora2ab* MO-injected *adora2ab*^{+/-} versus *adora2ab* MO-injected *adora2ab*^{-/-}]; $n = 20$ *adora2ab*^{+/-}, $n = 13$ *adora2ab*^{-/-}).

In these studies, we discovered a difference between our *adora2ab* MO-injected and *adora2ab*^{-/-} embryos. The genetic perturbation of adenosine signaling through A2ab loss of function in our CRISPR mutants could trigger genetic compensation, leading to a subsequent rebalancing of neuronal activity, and mask the role of A2ab ARs in OPC migration at the MEP TZ (El-Brolosy et al., 2018; Rossi et al., 2015). Because of the high homology between the paralogs *adora2aa* and *adora2ab*, we hypothesized that A2aa could compensate for A2ab to mediate adenosine signaling in *adora2ab*^{-/-} larvae. To test this hypothesis, we examined peripheral OPC migration in *olig2:dsred;adora2aa;adora2ab* double-mutant larvae at 3 dpf. In these larvae, we did not see any significant change in the number of peripherally migrated OPCs (Figure S6D; $p = 0.75$). In support of this, we performed qRT-PCR at 72 hpf and did not detect up-regulation of *adora2aa* mRNA expression in *adora2ab*^{-/-} larvae (data not shown). We conclude from these experiments that the compensatory mechanisms triggered by mutations in *adora2ab*

do not function through *adora2aa* but likely through other mechanisms regulating neuronal activity.

Because A2a ARs are excitatory G protein-coupled receptors that are known to function in neuromodulation, we hypothesized that a plausible compensatory mechanism at play could involve the enhancement of other mechanisms that drive neural activity. Therefore, we asked whether silencing neurons via inhibition of vesicular release would attenuate these compensatory mechanisms and consequently elicit enhanced OPC migration in *adora2ab* mutant larvae. To test this hypothesis, we injected *olig2:dsred;adora2ab* mutant embryos at the one-cell stage with 1–2 nL of 200 ng/ μ L TeNT mRNA to block vesicular release. Consistent with our hypothesis, we observed a significant increase in the number of peripheral OPCs in *adora2ab*^{-/-} mutant larvae compared with WT when neuronal activity was inhibited (Figure 4G; $n = 22$ WT, $n = 22$ *adora2ab*^{+/-}, $n = 13$ *adora2ab*^{-/-}, $n = 36$ WT + TeNT, $n = 32$ *adora2ab*^{+/-} + TeNT, $n = 20$ *adora2ab*^{-/-} + TeNT; $p < 0.0001$, WT + TeNT versus *adora2ab*^{-/-} + TeNT; $p < 0.0001$, *adora2ab*^{-/-} versus *adora2ab*^{-/-} + TeNT). As a way to demonstrate that A2ab is specifically enhancing the TeNT phenotype, we injected TeNT mRNA into zebrafish embryos harboring a mutation in *G protein coupled receptor 126* (*gpr126*) at the one-cell stage. In these mutant larvae, we never see ectopic OPCs under normal conditions, and *gpr126* does not play a role in neuromodulation. However, we would expect injection of TeNT mRNA to result in the ectopic migration of OPCs. We therefore quantified the number of ectopic OPCs in TeNT-injected *gpr126* mutant larvae at 3 dpf and observed that the number of ectopic OPCs is not significantly different from TeNT-injected WT larvae (Figure 4G; $p = 0.99$, WT + TeNT versus *gpr126*^{-/-} + TeNT; $n = 4$ *gpr126*^{+/-}, $n = 5$ *gpr126*^{-/-} + TeNT). Similar to control *adora2ab*^{-/-} larvae, TeNT-injected *adora2ab*^{-/-}, *gpr126*^{-/-}, and WT larvae do not show any morphological defects at 3 or 5 dpf (Figures S1C and S1D). From these data, we hypothesize that the enhanced phenotype in *adora2ab* mutant larvae injected with TeNT mRNA is due to a synergistic inhibition of neural activity. Therefore, we conclude that neural activity, driven partially by A2a ARs, leads to OPC restriction at the MEP TZ.

We next sought to demonstrate that OPC migration at MEP TZs was regulated by multiple mechanisms involving both neural modulation and cellular restriction. On the basis of our previous finding that laser ablation of MEP glia results in ectopic migration of OPCs into the periphery (Smith et al., 2014), we performed MEP glial ablation at 55 hpf in *sox10:eos* larvae that were injected with 1–2 nL of 200 ng/ μ L TeNT mRNA at the one-cell stage. In these larvae, we observed a significant increase in the percentage of peripheral nerves with OPC bodies and/or processes when MEP glia and vesicular release were ablated in comparison with MEP glial ablation alone or inhibition of neuronal activity alone (Figure 4H; $p = 0.004$, TeNT versus WT; $p < 0.0001$, MEP glia ablated versus MEP glia present; $n = 5$ larvae [uninjected], $n = 7$ larvae [TeNT]). Together, these data indicate that there are multiple, independent mechanisms regulating OPC migration at MEP TZs.

Neuronal Activity Influences Peripheral OPC Migration

Adenosine signaling through A2a ARs is a neuromodulatory pathway that acts to increase neurotransmitter release (Ciruela

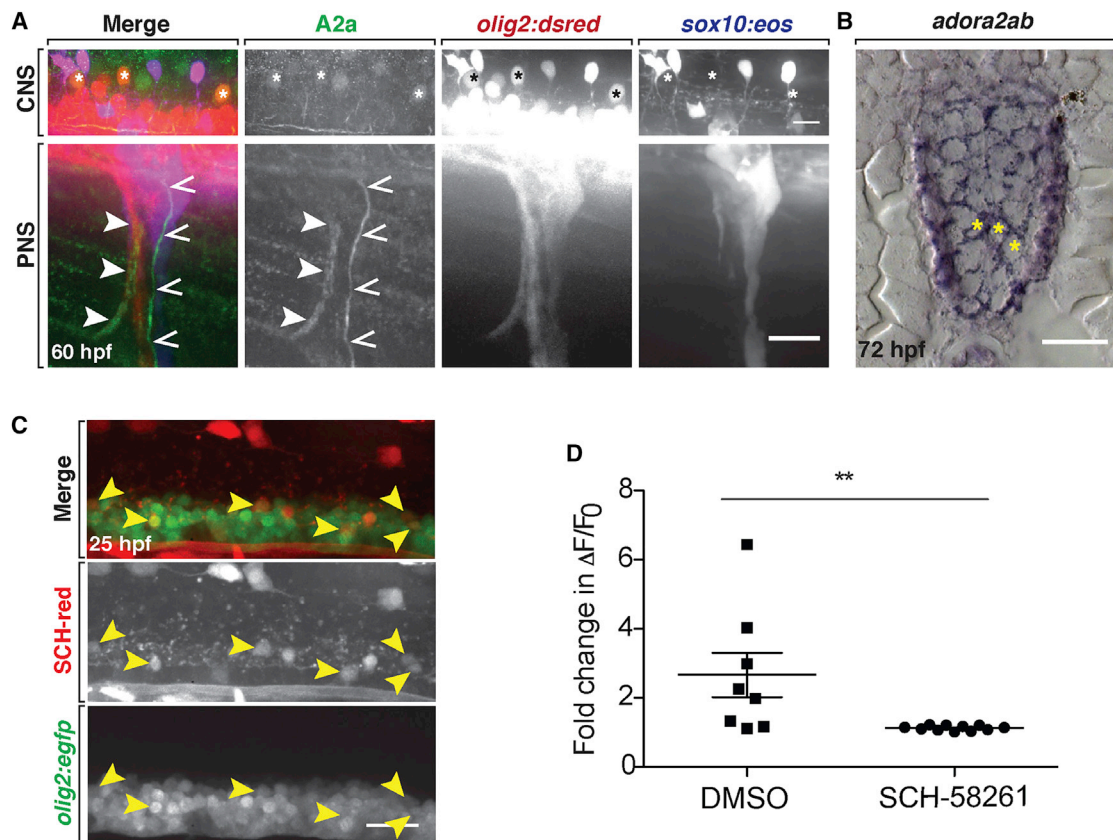


Figure 5. A2a AR Inhibition Reduces Neural Activity of Spinal Cord Neurons

(A) Lateral views of a 60 hpf WT *olig2:dsred;sox10:eos* larva stained with an A2a AR antibody. Top: spinal cord (CNS) with A2a expression in a subset of *olig2*⁺ motor neurons (asterisks). Bottom (PNS): peripheral spinal nerves with A2a expression in motor (closed arrowheads) and sensory (open arrowheads) axons. (B) *adora2ab* mRNA expression at 72 hpf in the spinal cord of a WT larva. Yellow asterisks denote motor neurons. (C) Twenty-five hours post-fertilization *olig2:egfp* embryo labeled with SCH-red fluorescent antagonist. Arrowheads mark spinal cord *olig2*⁺/SCH-red⁺ motor neurons. (D) Mean \pm SEM of the fold change in $\Delta F/F_0$ over time per individual firing event for larvae treated with DMSO (n = 8 neurons from eight larvae) and SCH-58261 (n = 11 neurons from ten larvae); p = 0.01. Scale bars, 20 μ m.

et al., 2006; Golder et al., 2008; Rebola et al., 2008). To confirm that adenosine signaling through A2a ARs regulates peripheral OPC migration by modifying neuronal activity in the spinal cord, we assessed the expression of the A2a AR.

In these studies, we observed A2a antibody expression at 60 and 72 hpf on peripheral motor and sensory axons, as well as on neuronal cell bodies and axons in the spinal cord, including *olig2*⁺ motor neurons (Figures 5A and S7A). As another method to detect expression, we used *in situ* hybridization to observe *adora2ab* mRNA expression. Consistent with our results using the A2a antibody, we observed *adora2ab* expression in spinal cord neurons, some of which were located in the ventral spinal cord, where motor neurons reside (Figure 5B). We did not detect any A2a AR or *adora2ab* expression on OPCs or any other glial cells at these stages, which is consistent with published RNA sequencing (RNA-seq) datasets that do not show *adora2a* expression in mouse OPCs (Zhang et al., 2014). When we used a fluorescently tagged SCH-58261 (SCH-red), we observed SCH-red binding to *olig2*⁺ spinal cord motor neurons at 25 hpf

(Figure 5C). This expression pattern matches the previously published expression of *adora2ab* mRNA in spinal cord neurons and further supports the selectivity of SCH-58261 for zebrafish A2a ARs on neurons (Boehmler et al., 2009).

Extracellular adenosine binding to A2a ARs on neurons increases firing, and in the spinal cord, A2a ARs increase motor neuron firing (Golder et al., 2008; Patel et al., 2001; Sebastião and Ribeiro, 2015). Therefore, we hypothesized that inhibiting A2a ARs decreased neuronal activity, which resulted in peripheral OPC migration. To test this hypothesis, we first tested whether inhibiting A2a ARs decreased neuronal activity *in vivo*. Using the calcium indicator GCaMP5 to detect neuronal firing, we quantified calcium transients as a measure of neuronal activity in 72 hpf *neurod:gal4;UAS:GCaMP5* larvae treated with SCH-58261 or DMSO. Because spontaneous neuronal activity in the spinal cord was not robust in 72 hpf larvae, we induced neuronal firing by treating the larvae with the potassium channel blocker 4-aminopyridine 20 min prior to imaging (Ellis et al., 2012). We then measured the change in fluorescence intensity over time

in ventral spinal cord neurons and quantified fluorescence spikes compared with baseline. Treatment with the A2a antagonist SCH-58261 significantly reduced neuronal firing compared with control, such that $\Delta F/F_0$ values rarely rose above baseline (Figures 5D and S7B). We conclude from this experiment that, consistent with the effects of A2a antagonists in other species, antagonizing A2a receptors with SCH-58261 decreases neuronal activity in zebrafish.

Because developing zebrafish have a combination of electrically and chemically coupled neurons, we also tested the effect of inhibiting activity of electrically coupled neurons with carbenoxolone, a gap junction blocker (Rozental et al., 2001; Saint-Amant and Drapeau, 2001; Solomon et al., 2003; Weber and Ross, 2003). We treated *olig2:dsred* embryos from 30 hpf to 3 dpf and quantified peripheral OPCs at 3 dpf. Consistent with our hypothesis, blocking gap junctions also resulted in significant numbers of peripherally migrated OPCs (Figure S7C; $p < 0.001$, 10 μ M carbenoxolone; $p < 0.0001$, 20 μ M carbenoxolone; $n = 5$ –10 larvae per dose) (Saint-Amant and Drapeau, 2001).

Peripherally Migrated OPCs Rescue Myelin Deficits in Peripheral Myelin Mutants

Our data demonstrate that A2a AR inhibition results in OPC migration onto peripheral spinal motor nerves without otherwise disturbing overall nerve development. This led us to hypothesize that OPCs could be recruited onto peripheral nerves in order to myelinate them. Previous studies from our lab demonstrate that peripheral OPCs are capable of initiating myelination of peripheral nerves (Kucenas et al., 2009; Morris et al., 2017; Smith et al., 2014). However, in these studies, OPCs populated the nerve in the context of genetic mutations resulting in the death or absence of both SCs and MEP glia. Therefore, we wanted to determine if it was possible to recruit OPCs to myelinate peripheral motor nerves in a model more closely resembling human peripheral neuropathies. To do this, we used *gpr126* mutant larvae, a model in which SCs ensheath, but fail to myelinate, peripheral nerves (Monk et al., 2009). Importantly, OLs are present in normal numbers in these mutants, and central myelination is indistinguishable from WT larvae (Monk et al., 2009).

We first tested whether untreated *gpr126* mutant larvae had functional MEP glia. MEP glia along the spinal motor root can be identified by expression of *wif1* or by fate mapping with photoconversion of the *sox10:eos* transgenic line (Smith et al., 2014). Using these tools, we found that MEP glia were present on spinal motor roots in *gpr126* mutant larvae at 72 hpf (Figures 6A and 6B). When we quantified peripheral OPC migration in *olig2:dsred;gpr126^{-/-}* larvae at 3 dpf, we did not observe any peripheral OPCs in mutants treated with DMSO (Figure 6C; $n = 8$). These data demonstrate that MEP glia are present and functioning properly and that the absence of SC myelin on peripheral nerves is not sufficient to elicit peripheral OPC migration.

Therefore, we tested whether treatment with the A2a AR antagonist would result in peripherally migrated OPCs. When we treated *gpr126* mutant larvae with 10 μ M of the A2a AR antagonist SCH-58261 from 36 hpf to 3 dpf, we observed a significant number of *olig2⁺* OPCs in the periphery compared with DMSO-treated controls (Figure 6C; $p = 0.009$; $n = 6$). We then performed *in vivo*, time-lapse imaging on *nkx2.2a:megfp;olig2:dsred;gpr126^{-/-}*

larvae in order to visualize whether these peripheral OPCs initiated myelination of peripheral motor axons (Kucenas et al., 2008a). In larvae treated with SCH-58261 from 36 hpf to 3 dpf, we observed *nkx2.2a⁺/olig2⁺* OPCs initiate ensheathment of peripheral spinal motor axons (Figure 6D; Video S2). These time-lapse data rule out the possibility that SCH-58261 treatment stimulates SCs to myelinate the nerve.

To examine whether these membrane sheaths were in fact myelin, we treated *gpr126* mutant larvae from 36 hpf to 3 dpf with SCH-58261 or DMSO, fixed them at 4 dpf, and labeled with an antibody specific to myelin basic protein (MBP) (Kucenas et al., 2009). In mutant larvae treated with DMSO, we observed MBP only on a short segment of the proximal nerve root (Figure 6E), which is consistent with our previous data showing that differentiated MEP glia express MBP in this location (Smith et al., 2014). In contrast, in mutant larvae treated with the A2a AR antagonist, MBP labeling was present further distally along the nerve (Figure 6E). As further confirmation that peripheral OPCs myelinate spinal motor nerve roots following treatment with SCH-58261, we imaged *mbp:egfp;olig2:dsred;gpr126^{-/-}* larvae from 72 to 86 hpf ($n = 3$) (Figure 6F). In these time-lapses, we observed *olig2⁺* OPCs ensheathing peripheral nerves with *mbp⁺* membrane tubes (Video S3). Both the MBP antibody and *mbp:egfp* labeling were closely associated with an *olig2⁺* cell body, providing further evidence that peripherally migrated OPCs, and not SCs, initiate myelination in *gpr126* mutant larvae treated with SCH-58261 (Figures 6D and 6E). From these experiments, we conclude that OPCs can be recruited onto peripheral motor nerves and initiate myelination, even in the presence of MEP glia and SCs.

DISCUSSION

At MEP TZs, motor axons originating within the spinal cord cross through the glia limitans and transition into the PNS (Bonanomi and Pfaff, 2010; Siebel et al., 2014). OPCs, in contrast, originate within the CNS but do not cross into the periphery, despite being highly migratory and extending membrane processes into the TZ (Fraher and Kaar, 1984; Smith et al., 2014). The mechanisms responsible for allowing axons and other glial populations to cross through the MEP TZ while preventing OPCs are not fully understood. Using selective inhibitors for AR subtypes combined with genetic manipulation, we show that neuronal activity, at least partially mediated by A2a ARs, is involved in regulating OPC migration at the MEP TZ.

Adenosine and Activity-Dependent Regulation of OPCs

Adenosine is a ubiquitous extracellular signaling ligand in the CNS and PNS (Abbracchio et al., 2009; Welsh and Kucenas, 2018). It can be released directly from cells into the extracellular space through nucleoside transporters and can also be derived from hydrolysis of extracellular ATP, which is released from synaptic vesicles by most, if not all, neurons (Burnstock, 1972; Fields and Burnstock, 2006). In the spinal cord, adenosine modulates the activity of motor neurons (Golder et al., 2008; Patel et al., 2001). In our studies, we demonstrate that motor neurons and interneurons within the spinal cord express A2ab receptors and that inhibiting A2ab decreases neuronal activity. These results are consistent with data from many other model systems

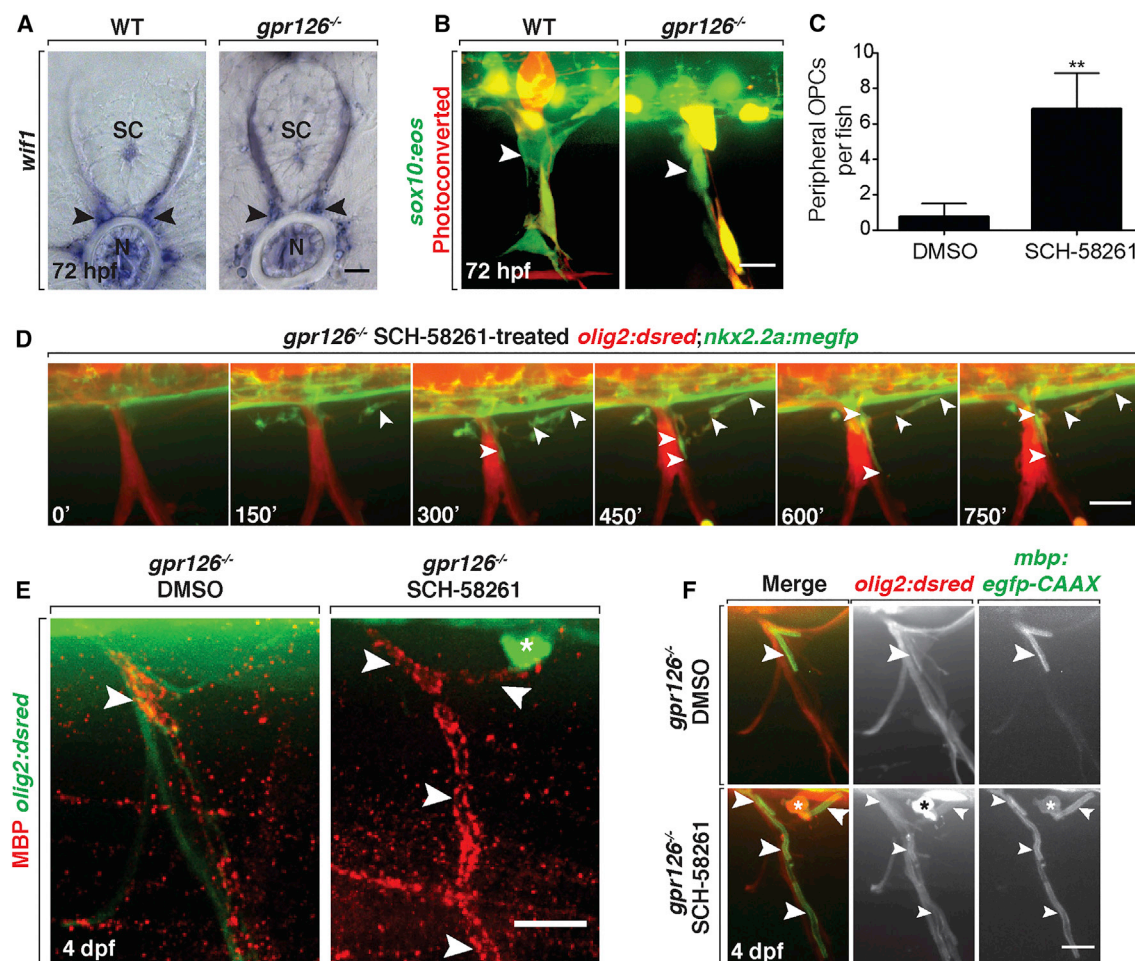


Figure 6. Peripheral OPCs Myelinate Spinal Motor Axons in *gpr126* Mutant Larvae

(A) *wif1* mRNA expression in WT and *gpr126*^{-/-} larvae at 3 dpf shows MEP glia (arrowheads). SC, spinal cord; N, notochord.
 (B) Live images of photoconverted *sox10:eos* larvae at 3 dpf show Eos⁺ MEP glia (arrowheads) in both WT and *gpr126*^{-/-} larvae.
 (C) Mean \pm SEM of peripheral OPCs in 3 dpf *gpr126*^{-/-} larvae treated with DMSO or SCH-58261 from 36 hpf to 3 dpf. n = 8 DMSO, n = 6 SCH-58261. **p = 0.009.
 (D) Frames from a 15 h time-lapse movie of a *olig2:dsred;nkx2.2a:megfp;gpr126*^{-/-} larva treated with SCH-58261 from 36 hpf to 3 dpf; 0' is 57 hpf. Arrowheads mark a *nkx2.2a*⁺/*olig2*⁺ OPC ensheathing motor axons.
 (E) Images of MBP antibody (arrowheads) on peripheral nerves of 4 dpf *olig2:dsred;gpr126*^{-/-} larvae treated with DMSO or SCH-58261 from 36 hpf to 3 dpf. Asterisk marks peripheral OPC.
 (F) Live images of 4 dpf WT and *gpr126*^{-/-}; *olig2:dsred;mbp:egfp* larvae treated with DMSO or SCH-58261 from 36 hpf to 3 dpf. Asterisk marks *olig2*⁺ peripheral OPC with *mbp*⁺ membrane sheaths (arrowheads) around peripheral motor axons. Scale bars, 20 μ m.

showing that neuronal A2a receptors act to promote activity of spinal cord motor neurons as well as other kinds of CNS neurons (Sebastião and Ribeiro, 2015).

The data we present fit well with growing evidence from multiple labs that neuronal activity regulates OPC and OL behaviors, including migration, differentiation, and myelination (Almeida and Lyons, 2017; Czopka, 2016; Gallo et al., 2008). Electrophysiological and *in vivo* time-lapse imaging studies demonstrate that OPCs detect changes in neuronal activity or a variety of directly applied neurotransmitters (Baraban et al., 2018; Lin and Bergles, 2004). Studies in mice and zebrafish also demonstrate that increased neuronal activity promotes OPC differentiation and myelination, whereas decreased activity inhibits differentiation and leads to hypomyelination (Gibson et al., 2014; Hines et al.,

2015; Makinodan et al., 2012; Mensch et al., 2015; Mitew et al., 2018; Stevens et al., 2002). In addition, decreased neuronal activity results in altered OPC distribution and migration in mouse brains (Mangin et al., 2012; Tong et al., 2009). We hypothesize that because neuronal activity leads to OPC differentiation, decreased activity in our experiments may affect OPC differentiation, which could cause them to maintain their highly migratory state. Our findings that perturbing neural activity with SCH-58261, genetic disruption of A2ab ARs or TeNT injection leads to ectopic OPC migration, are consistent with these studies and the hypothesis that neuronal activity regulates OPC migration and differentiation.

Therefore, we propose a model in which A2a AR regulation of neuronal activity participates in preventing peripheral migration

of OPCs. A2a ARs are excitatory G_s protein-coupled receptors, which upon activation by adenosine, activate adenylyl cyclase that in turn causes increased intracellular cyclic AMP levels and activation of PKA (Borea et al., 2018). Through this cascade, A2a AR activation not only modulates neuronal activity, both pre- and post-synaptically, by increasing neurotransmitter release and cellular excitability respectively, but also modulates neuronal activity non-synaptically by depolarizing neurons through the regulation of ion channels such as calcium and potassium channels (Ribeiro and Sebastião, 2010). For these reasons, we believe that inhibiting vesicular release by tetanus toxin and the blocking of A2a AR signaling are distinct mechanisms that independently result in decreased neuronal activity, and when disrupted together, lead to a synergistic inhibition of neuronal activity and an enhanced phenotype of peripheral OPCs.

Multiple Mechanisms Mediate OPC Segregation at the MEP TZ

In a previous study, we showed that MEP glia restrict OPCs to the CNS by contact-mediated repulsion at MEP TZs (Smith et al., 2014). In the present article, we demonstrate that adenosine signaling, mediated at least partially by A2ab ARs, is another mechanism regulating OPC restriction at the MEP TZ, independent of MEP glial function. We provide evidence that unbalancing neuronal activity, either by antagonizing adenosine signaling or by blocking vesicular release or gap junctions, leads to ectopic peripherally migrated OPCs. Our current data show that affecting several of these mechanisms results in a cumulative phenotype and leads to more OPCs migrating onto peripheral nerves, suggesting that multiple independent mechanisms regulate OPC migration at the MEP TZ.

This supports our hypothesis that a large range of mechanisms could be compensating for the disrupted adenosine signaling in *adora2ab* mutant larvae and balance neuronal activity. We sought to identify the compensatory mechanisms masking the function of A2ab in OPC restriction in *adora2ab* mutant larvae and hypothesized that *adora2aa* was compensating for *adora2ab*. Surprisingly, there was no genetic compensation of *adora2ab* by its paralog *adora2aa*. Other mechanisms, including other ARs, could be compensating for the lack of A2ab. Eight other ARs, encoded by eight distinct genes, including the newly identified *adora2c* (Wakisaka et al., 2017), could individually or synergistically compensate for A2ab. Because adenosine is a neuromodulator and because genetic compensation is not limited to genes from a same family (Rossi et al., 2015), we also cannot rule out the possibility that other neuromodulators and neurotransmitters could compensate for the loss of A2ab ARs and balance neuronal activity. Glutamate signaling is an attractive candidate, as OPCs express receptors for this neurotransmitter (Lin and Bergles, 2004) and motor neurons can release glutamate in the spinal cord (Nishimaru et al., 2005). Synapses between OPCs and neurons have been observed using electron microscopy, and vesicular release of glutamate from neurons activates AMPA and/or NMDA receptors on OPCs (Bergles et al., 2000). We also acknowledge the possibility that OPCs could respond to other factors released from neurons in an activity-dependent manner, such as ATP (Fields and Stevens, 2000).

Potential for Peripheral OPCs to Myelinate Peripheral Nerves

Our findings also offer intriguing possibilities for the treatment of peripheral neuropathies. We and others have shown that OPCs are capable of myelinating peripheral axons (Coulpier et al., 2010; Kucenas et al., 2009; Morris et al., 2017; Smith et al., 2014). However, these previous studies were in the context of genetic mutations that result in the loss of all peripheral myelinating glia. In our studies using *gpr126* mutant larvae, SCs are present on nerves, but they fail to make myelin, which is a feature of some hypomyelinating peripheral myelinopathies (Monk et al., 2011). Our data as well as previous studies in mice and zebrafish demonstrate no peripheral OPC migration in mutants with peripheral hypomyelination, and it is unclear whether OPCs would naturally migrate onto peripheral nerves in human neuropathy patients (Coulpier et al., 2010; Monk et al., 2009, 2011). Because of this, we are excited by the possibility of inducing OPCs to migrate onto peripheral nerves that lack myelin. Once in the periphery, our studies demonstrate that OPCs are competent to initiate myelination without continued drug treatment. In combination with previous studies, this is strong evidence for the potential for OPCs to myelinate peripheral nerves in disease.

STAR★METHODS

Detailed methods are provided in the online version of this paper and include the following:

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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Supplemental Information can be found online at <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.celrep.2019.03.013>.

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AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

L.F., T.G.W., and S.K. conceived the study, and L.F., T.G.W., M.P., and P.C. conducted and analyzed all of the experiments. A.V.G. and D.A.P. created the *adora2aa* TALEN mutant line. L.F., T.G.W., and S.K. wrote the manuscript with input from D.A.P.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

The authors declare no competing interests.

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STAR★METHODS

KEY RESOURCES TABLE

REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
Antibodies		
Rabbit anti-A2a	GeneTex	Cat#GTX23461; RRID: AB_367170
Rabbit anti-Sox10	Binari et al., 2013	N/A
Rabbit anti-MBP	Kucenas et al., 2009	N/A
Alexa Fluor 647 goat anti-rabbit IgG(H+L)	ThermoFisher	Cat#A-21244; RRID: AB_2535812
Sheep Anti-Digoxigenin-AP, Fab fragments	Sigma	Cat#11093274910; RRID: AB_514497
Chemicals, Peptides, and Recombinant Proteins		
Fluorescent SCH-58261	CisBio	Cat#L0058RED
Cas9 protein	PNA Bio	Cat#CP01
4-aminopyridine	Sigma	Cat#A78403; CAS number 504-24-5
Pancuronium bromide	Sigma	Cat#P1918; CAS number 15500-66-0
3-aminobenzoic acid ester (Tricaine)	Syndel	N/A
LOPAC® ¹²⁸⁰	Sigma	Cat#LO1280
1-Phenyl-2-thiourea (PTU)	Sigma	Cat#P7629; CAS number 103-85-5
SCH-58261	Sigma	Cat#S4568; CAS number 160098-96-4
AG1478	Sigma	Cat#658548; CAS number 175178-82-2
CGS-15943	Sigma	Cat#C199; CAS number 104615-18-1
MRS-1754	Sigma	Cat#M6316
8-cyclopentyltheophylline (CPT)	Sigma	Cat#C102; CAS number 35873-49-5
MRS-1191	Sigma	Cat#M227; CAS number 185222-90-6
CGS-21680	Sigma	Cat#119137 CAS number 124182-57-6
Dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO)	Sigma	Cat#D2650; CAS number 67-68-5
Carbenoxolone	Sigma	Cat#C4790; CAS number 7421-40-1
DIG RNA labeling mix	Sigma	Cat#11 277 073 910
Critical Commercial Assays		
mMessage mMachine SP6 <i>in vitro</i> transcription kit	ThermoFisher	Cat#AM1340
Megascript T7 kit	Thermofisher	Cat#AM1334
mMessage mMachine T7 Ultra kit	Thermofisher	Cat#AM1345
Strataclone PCR Cloning Kit	Stratagene	Cat# 240205
Experimental Models: Organisms/Strains		
Zebrafish: <i>Tg(sox10(4.9):eos)^{w9}</i>	Prendergast et al., 2012	ZDB-ALT-110721-1
Zebrafish: <i>Tg(sox10(4.9):nls-eos)^{w18}</i>	Prendergast et al., 2012	ZDB-ALT-110721-2
Zebrafish: <i>Tg(olig2:egfp)^{vu12}</i>	Shin et al., 2003	ZDB-ALT-041129-8
Zebrafish: <i>Tg(olig2:dsred)^{vu19}</i>	Shin et al., 2003	ZDB-ALT-080321-2
Zebrafish: <i>Tg(nkx2.2a:megef)^{vu17}</i>	Kucenas et al., 2008b	ZDB-ALT-080321-1
Zebrafish: <i>Tg(mbp:egfp-caax)^{ue2}</i>	Almeida et al., 2011	ZDB-ALT-120103-2
Zebrafish: <i>adora2aa^{ct845}</i>	This paper	N/A
Zebrafish: <i>adora2ab^{uva6}</i>	This paper	N/A
Zebrafish: <i>adora2ab^{uva7}</i>	This paper	N/A
Zebrafish: <i>adora2ab^{uva9}</i>	This paper	N/A
Zebrafish: <i>gpr126^{st49}</i>	Monk et al., 2009	ZDB-ALT-061207-4
Zebrafish: <i>Tg(neuroD:gal4)^{uva22}</i>	This paper	N/A

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Continued

REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
Oligonucleotides		
<i>adora2aa</i> ^{MO1} (CATTGTTTCAGCATGGTGAGGTCGCT)	GeneTools	N/A
<i>adora2ab</i> ^{MO1} (GTGCTATCAACCAGTGTGAAAGGAT)	GeneTools	N/A
<i>Adora2aa</i> FWD AAGCCATCCCATGTGAAGTC	IDT	N/A
<i>Adora2aa</i> REV TCACATTCAGGGCAGAACAG	IDT	N/A
<i>Adora2ab</i> FWD CAACTATGTGTGTCCTGAGGA	IDT	N/A
<i>Adora2ab</i> REV ATGAAGAGGCATCCATGAAAAT	IDT	N/A
<i>Gpr126</i> FWD TAGAGATTGCACATTTGGATTA	Monk et al., 2009	N/A
<i>Gpr126</i> REV ATCGGAACACACCAAACAGG	Monk et al., 2009	N/A
Recombinant DNA		
pGEMTEZ-TeTxLC	Addgene	Cat#32640
pCR8/GW	Invitrogen	Cat#K250020
pCR4	Invitrogen	Cat#450030
pDestTol2-pA2-UAS-GCaMP5	This paper	N/A
Software and Algorithms		
MetaMorph	Molecular Devices	moleculardevices.com
ImageJ	NIH	ImageJ
Adobe Photoshop CC 2017	Adobe	Adobe
Adobe Illustrator CC 2017	Adobe	Adobe
Microsoft Excel	Microsoft	Microsoft
Prism 6	GraphPad	graphpad.com

CONTACT FOR REAGENT AND RESOURCE SHARING

Further information and requests for reagents and resources should be directed to and will be fulfilled by the Lead Contact, Sarah Kucenas (sk4ub@virginia.edu).

EXPERIMENTAL MODEL AND SUBJECT DETAILS

Fish Husbandry

All animal studies were approved by the University of Virginia Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee. Zebrafish strains used in this study were: AB⁺, *Tg(sox10(4.9):eos)*^{w9}, *Tg(sox10(4.9):nls-eos)*^{w18} ([Prendergast et al., 2012](#)), *Tg(olig2:egfp)*^{vu12}, *Tg(olig2:dsred)*^{vu19} ([Shin et al., 2003](#)), *Tg(nkx2.2a:megfp)*^{vu17} ([Kucenas et al., 2008b](#)), *Tg(mbp:egfp-CAAX)* ([Almeida et al., 2011](#)), *adora2aa*^{ct845}, *adora2ab*^{uva6}, *adora2ab*^{uva7}, *adora2ab*^{uva9}, *Tg(neuroD:gal4)*^{uva22} and *gpr126*^{st149} ([Monk et al., 2009](#)). Table S1 denotes abbreviations used for each strain and summarizes what each transgene labels. Embryos were raised at 28.5°C in egg water and staged by hours or days post fertilization (hpf and dpf, respectively). Embryos of either sex were used for all experiments ([Kimmel et al., 1995](#)). Phenylthiourea (PTU) (0.004%) in egg water was used to reduce pigmentation for imaging. Stable, germline transgenic lines were used in all experiments.

METHOD DETAILS

Chemical treatments

The LOPAC®¹²⁸⁰ library (Sigma Cat. No. LO1280) was used for the chemical screen. 384 well masterplates, a gift from Drs. John Lazo and Elizabeth Sharlow, were replated and diluted with DMSO to create 1 mM 96-well stock plates. At 24 hours post fertilization (hpf), *olig2:dsred* embryos were dechorionated using 0.2% pronase. Embryos remained in pronase for 2 minutes at 25°C and were washed 4 times with egg water at 25°C. One embryo was placed in each well of a 96 well plate with 198 µL of water. 2 µL of compound from the 96 well stock plate was added to the water for a final concentration of 10 µM compound and 1% DMSO. For the initial screen, we tested each drug once in 1 well of a 96 well plate. Each row of the plate also contained 1 positive and 1 negative control well. 4 µM AG1478 was used as a positive control and 1% DMSO was used as a negative control for each plate. Plates were covered with a low evaporation lid and placed in a 28.5°C incubator until analysis at 3 dpf. Plates were analyzed on a Zeiss AxioObserver inverted microscope equipped with epifluorescence using a 10X objective (NA = 0.3). At 3 dpf, the presence or absence of peripheral

olig2⁺ cells was scored for each larva. All positive hits from the primary screen were retested on 3 embryos in a secondary screen in which LOPAC®¹²⁸⁰ compounds, AG1478, and 1% DMSO treatments were randomized across the plate and all experimenters were blinded to the identity of compounds or controls until after analysis. Any experiment in the secondary screen in which fewer than 8 positive control embryos or greater than one DMSO treated embryo had ectopic OPCs was excluded and later repeated. For all subsequent drug experiments, new chemical stocks were obtained from suppliers, and embryos were manually dechorionated using forceps. 1% DMSO was used as a negative control for all drug treatment experiments, except carbenoxolone and MK-801, which were dissolved in distilled water. Using the same microscope and objective as in the original screen, we quantified peripheral *olig2*⁺ cells for whole larvae, excluding the first (anterior) 2 somites which are obscured by the yolk, and the last (posterior) 4 somites in the tail, which develop more slowly than the rest of the trunk.

In vivo imaging and photoconversion

Embryos were anesthetized with 0.01% 3-aminobenzoic acid ester (Tricaine), immersed in 0.8% low-melting point agarose and mounted laterally in glass-bottomed 35 mm Petri dishes (Electron Microscopy Sciences). After mounting, the Petri dish was filled with egg water containing PTU and Tricaine. For some experiments, chemical compounds were also dissolved in the water. A 25X multi-immersion objective (NA = 0.8), 40X oil objective (NA = 1.4) and a 40X water objective (NA = 1.1) mounted on a motorized Zeiss AxioObserver ZI microscope equipped with a Quorum WaveFX-XI spinning disc confocal system (Quorum Technologies Inc.) were used to capture images. Image processing was performed with MetaMorph and Photoshop to enhance brightness and contrast of images. The Fiji plugin MTrackJ was used to annotate time-lapse movies (Meijering et al., 2012).

We used fate mapping with photoconversion of the *sox10:eos* transgenic line to identify MEP glia in some experiments. The nascent Eos protein exists in a green fluorescent state, but when exposed to ultraviolet (UV) light, it permanently shifts to a red fluorescent state. When exposed to UV light at 48 hpf, neural crest-derived cells are photoconverted to red fluorescence. MEP glia, which are not neural crest-derived and begin expressing *sox10:eos* after 48 hpf, are not photoconverted and can be identified as GFP⁺ cells on the nerve root (Smith et al., 2014). For photoconversion, the entire trunk of *sox10:eos* larvae was exposed to 30 s of UV light through a DAPI filter using a 20X objective (NA = 0.8).

Cell ablation

Single cell ablations were performed with a nitrogen-pulsed MicroPoint laser using a coumarin dye (435nm) with a 63x (MEP glia ablation) water immersion objectives. After pre ablation images were acquired, a region of interest (ROI) was created based off the merged-color image around MEP glia to selectively laser ablate single cells.

Calcium imaging

We injected the calcium indicator UAS:GCaMP5 DNA construct into stable transgenic zebrafish embryos *neuroD:gal4*. The combination of UAS:GCaMP5 and *neuroD:gal4* leads to mosaic expression of GCaMP5 in CNS neurons. Prior to imaging, larvae expressing GCaMP5 in the ventral spinal cord were treated with 800 μ M 4-aminopyridine (4-AP) (Sigma A78403) diluted in egg water for 15 minutes to induce neuronal activity (Ellis et al., 2012), then immediately paralyzed using the neuromuscular junction (NMJ) blocking nicotinic receptor antagonist pancuronium bromide (Sigma P1918) for 10 minutes, which was dissolved in egg water (0.3 mg/mL) (Baraban et al., 2018). Larvae were then embedded in 0.8% low melting point agarose for imaging. To record Ca²⁺ dynamics, individual neurons of the ventral spinal cord were imaged every 250 ms for 2 minutes, using an exposure time of 100 ms on single z-planes. Images were captured with a 63x water immersion objective (na = 1.2) mounted on a motorized Zeiss AxioObserver ZI microscope equipped with a Quorum Wave FX-XI spinning disc confocal system (Quorum Technologies Inc.). Single-plane time-lapses were processed in MetaMorph with no intensity averaging.

Immunohistochemistry and fluorescent antagonist treatment

Embryos were fixed and stained using the procedure previously described (Smith et al., 2014). Antibodies used were: rabbit anti-A2a (1:100 GeneTex (Andersson et al., 2012)), rabbit anti-Sox10 (1:5000 [Binari et al., 2013]), rabbit anti-MBP (1:250 [Kucenas et al., 2009]), and Alexa 647 goat anti-rabbit (1:600) (ThermoFisher). Fluorescent SCH-58261 (SCH-red) was purchased from CisBio. 25 hpf embryos were immersed in 7.14 μ M SCH-red in 30% DMSO for 30 minutes, then fixed in 4% PFA at 25°C for 3 hours. Embryos were mounted in glass-bottomed Petri dishes for imaging as described above.

Morpholino and mRNA injections

Antisense morpholino oligonucleotides (MO) were purchased from Gene Tools. *adora2a*^{MO1} (CATTGTTTCAGCATGGTGAGGTCGCT) (Haas et al., 2013) is complementary to the region spanning the translation start codon of *adora2a* mRNA, and *adora2ab*^{MO1} (GTGCTATCAACCACTGTGAAAGGAT) is complementary to the region immediately 5' to the start codon of *adora2ab* mRNA. Embryos were injected with 2 to 3 nL of injection solution (distilled water, 4 mg/ml phenol red, diluted MO) at the 1-cell stage. Any embryos damaged during the injection procedure were removed, and the rest were incubated at 28.5°C. Data presented for each MO are combined from at least 3 independent experiments. Uninjected controls and phenol red control injections were performed at least twice for each dataset.

For Tetanus Toxin experiments, TeNT cDNA was prepared from plasmid pGEMTEZ-TeTxLC (a gift from Marcel Tawak) as previously described (Fontenas et al., 2016). TeNT mRNA was prepared using the mMessage mMachine SP6 *in vitro* transcription kit (ThermoFisher). Injections of mRNA encoding Tetanus Toxin Light Chain (TeNT) were performed at the one-cell stage. A 2 nL volume of 200 ng/μL mRNA in DEPC-treated distilled water was used. All embryos were manually dechorionated at 2 dpf and evaluated for paralysis at that time. The startle reflex was also analyzed at 3 dpf as further evidence that TeNT expression caused inhibition of neuronal firing. For calcium imaging experiments, 2 nL of 100 ng/μL UAS-GCaMP5 DNA construct diluted in injection buffer were injected into *neuroD:gal4* embryos at the one cell stage.

Creation of *adora2ab* mutant line

sgRNA targeting *adora2ab* was designed using CHOPCHOP (<http://chopchop.cbu.uib.no/>) and the protocol from <https://www.schierlab.fas.harvard.edu/resources/> (Gagnon et al., 2014). We annealed the 5' gene-specific oligo and the 3' constant oligo using the PCR protocol described in Nakayama et al. (2014). We transcribed sgRNA using Ambion Megascript T7 kit and injected 2 nL of 200–400 ng/μL sgRNA with 500 ng/μL Cas9 protein (PNA Bio) dissolved in nuclease-free water into cells of *olig2:dsred* or *olig2:egfp* embryos at the 1 cell stage. To identify founders, injected embryos were raised to adulthood and mated, then genomic DNA was isolated from a pool of 8 embryos from each potential founder. PCR was performed using the primers CAACTATGTGTGCCCTGAGGA and ATGAAGAGGCATCCATGAAAAT were to amplify a 279 base pair region of genomic *adora2ab*, and Sanger sequencing with the primer CAACTATGTGTGCCCTGAGGA was used to identify CRISPR-induced indels. Sequence trace files were analyzed with ApE or SnapGene. To identify alleles in F1 animals, we cloned single mutated DNA fragments using TOPO cloning. To analyze the CRISPR induced-mutations, DNA from adult fin clips was extracted and amplified by PCR using the *adora2ab* forward (5'-CAAC TATGTGTGTGCCCTGAGGA-3') and reverse (5'-ATGAAGAGGCATCCATGAAAAT-3') primers. PCR was done with GoTaq green master mix (Promega) and conditions were as follows: 95°C for 3 min, followed by 35 cycles at 95°C for 30 s, 60°C for 30 s and 72°C for 1 min. Final extension was at 72°C for 20 min. PCR products from individual embryos were TOPO TA cloned into pCR8/GW or pCR4 vectors (Invitrogen). For each embryo, clones were sequenced using the M13 forward or M13 reverse primer. Sequences were aligned to WT genomic DNA using BLAST global alignment tool. All CRISPR data presented in this manuscript was obtained using stable, germline mutations identified in the F1 generation.

Creation of *adora2aa* mutant line

A TALEN targeting zebrafish *adora2aa* was designed using the ZIFIT Targeter (<https://omictools.com/zifit-tool>) (Sander et al., 2011) and constructed as previously described (Chen et al., 2013). TALEN mRNA was synthesized from purified linear DNA using the mMessage mMachine T7 Ultra kit (Ambion), 50–100pg of TALEN mRNA dissolved in nuclease-free water was injected into zebrafish embryos at the 1-cell stage. To identify founders, injected embryos were raised to adulthood and mated, then genomic DNA was isolated from a pool of 1 to 6 embryos from each potential founder. PCR was performed using the primers GTTTGTTCGAGGA GGTGGTG and ACCACTGAGTTTGCGTGTGA, and indels were identified by analyzing PCR product sizes using Peak Scanner (Applied Biosystems). To confirm indel sequences, genomic DNA from single embryos was amplified and subcloned using the Strataclone PCR Cloning Kit (Stratagene), and DNA sequences were then analyzed with SeqBuilder and SeqMan (DNASar Lasergene).

Genotyping

Genomic DNA was extracted using HotSHOT (hot sodium hydroxide and tris) (Truett et al., 2000). The primers used for genotyping *gpr126*^{st49} have previously been published (Monk et al., 2009). For *adora2ab*^{uva6}, *adora2ab*^{uva7} and *adora2ab*^{uva9}, PCR was performed using the primers CAACTATGTGTGTGCCCTGAGGA and ATGAAGAGGCATCCATGAAAAT. For *adora2ab*^{uva6} and *adora2ab*^{uva7} the mutant alleles were identified using agarose gel electrophoresis. For *adora2ab*^{uva9}, the WT PCR product was digested with Tsp45i. The primers AAGCCATCCCATGTGAACTC and TCACATTCAGGGCAGAACAG were used to amplify a 151 bp product within *adora2aa*. Because the mutation is a 7 bp deletion and is difficult to resolve on an agarose gel, we performed Sanger sequencing using the primer TCACATTCAGGGCAGAACAG to identify WT, heterozygous, and homozygous mutants.

In situ hybridization and sectioning

Larvae were fixed in 4% PFA at 4°C overnight and stored in 100% methanol at –20°C and processed for *in situ* RNA hybridization. Plasmids were linearized with appropriate restriction enzymes and cRNA preparation was carried out using Roche DIG-labeling reagents and RNA polymerases (NEB). We used previously published probes for *wif1* and *adora2ab* (Boehmler et al., 2009; Smith et al., 2014). After *in situ* hybridization, embryos were embedded in 1.5% agarose/30% sucrose and frozen in 2-methylbutane chilled by immersion in liquid nitrogen. We collected 20 μm transverse sections on microscope slides using a cryostat microtome and covered with 75% glycerol. For *adora2ab*, *in situ* hybridization was performed on 20 μm tissue sections. Images were obtained using a Zeiss AxioObserver inverted microscope using a 40x oil immersion objective. All images were imported into Adobe Photoshop. Adjustments were limited to levels, contrast, and cropping.

QUANTIFICATION AND STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

GCaMP5 analysis

Fluorescence intensity measurements were extracted from ROIs using ImageJ and imported to Excel. $\Delta F/F_0$ were measured by applying the following formula $\Delta F/F_0 = (F_t - F_0)/(F_0 - F_{\text{background}})$, where F_t is the fluorescence intensity in the ROI in which the calcium transient was observed at time t , F_0 is the average fluorescence intensity of first three frames of the timelapse in the same ROI, and $F_{\text{background}}$ is the fluorescence intensity of the background at time t (Baraban et al., 2018). For each individual neuron, the average baseline fluorescence was determined by averaging the $\Delta F/F_0$ of all 500 time points. For fold change quantification, all $\Delta F/F_0$ values one standard deviation or more above the baseline were considered firing events, and their average was compared to the baseline.

Statistical analysis

GraphPad Prism was used for all statistical analyses. Unpaired Student's t test or, for multiple comparisons, 1-way ANOVA followed by Bonferroni post test, were used for quantifications of OPCs, MEP glia, Eos⁺ peripheral cells. 2-way ANOVA followed by Tukey's multiple comparison test was used for quantification of peripheral OPCs in *adora2ab* mutant larvae injected with TeNT, and for MEP glial ablation combined with TeNT. Chi-square analysis was used for quantification of paralysis and startle reflex, and survival test was used for analyzing mutant survival and hatching. A p value less than 0.05 was considered statistically significant. For dose response experiments, 10 to 12 embryos were treated per dose, and n is reported as the range of larvae analyzed per dose.